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Focus ON READING

Vocabulary

READING
COMPREHENSION

The Outsiders

S. E. Hinton

ACTIVATE PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

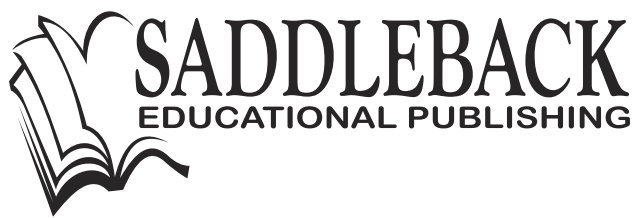
Reproducible Activities



Focus **ON READING**

The Outsiders

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Introduction/Classroom Management

WELCOME TO *FOCUS ON READING*

Focus on Reading literature study guides are designed to help all students comprehend and analyze their reading. Many teachers have grappled with the question of how to make quality literature accessible to all students. Students who are already avid readers of quality literature are motivated to read and are familiar with prereading and reading strategies. However, struggling readers frequently lack basic reading skills and are not equipped with the prior knowledge and reading strategies to thoroughly engage in the classroom literature experience.

Focus on Reading is designed to make teachers' and students' lives easier! How? By providing materials that allow all students to take part in reading quality literature. Each *Focus on Reading* study guide contains activities that focus on vocabulary and comprehension skills that students need to get the most from their reading. In addition, each section within the guide contains a before-reading **Focus Your Reading** page containing tools to ensure success: **Vocabulary Words to Know**, **Things to Know**, and **Questions to Think About**. These study aids will help students who may not have the prior knowledge they need to truly comprehend the reading.

USING *FOCUS ON READING*

Focus on Reading is designed to make it easy for you to meet the individual needs of students who require additional reading skills support. Each *Focus on Reading* study guide contains teacher and student support materials, reproducible student activity sheets, an end-of-book test, and an answer key.

- **Focus on the Book**, a convenient reference page for the teacher, provides a brief overview of the entire book including a synopsis, information about the setting, author data, and historical background.
- **Focus Your Knowledge**, a reference page for students, is a whole-book, prereading activity designed to activate prior knowledge and immerse students in the topic.

The study guide divides the novel into 6 manageable sections to make it easy to plan classroom time. Five activities are devoted to each section of the novel.

Before Reading

- **Focus Your Reading** consists of 3 prereading sections:

Vocabulary Words to Know lists and defines 10 vocabulary words students will encounter in their reading. Students will not have to interrupt their reading to look up, ask for, or spend a lot of time figuring out the meaning of unfamiliar words. These words are later studied in-depth within the lesson.

Things to Know identifies terms or concepts that are integral to the reading but that may not be familiar to today's students. This section is intended to "level the playing field" for those students who may not have much prior knowledge about the time period, culture, or theme of the book. It also gets students involved with the book, increasing interest before they begin reading.

Questions to Think About helps students focus on the main ideas and important details they should be looking for as they read. This activity helps give students a *purpose* for reading. The goal of these guiding questions is to build knowledge, confidence, and comfort with the topics in the reading.

During Reading

- **Build Your Vocabulary** presents the 10 unit focus words in the exact context of the book. Students are then asked to write their own definitions and sentences for the words.
- **Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice** offers 10 multiple-choice, literal comprehension questions for each section.
- **Check Your Understanding: Short Answer** contains 10 short-answer questions based on the reading.

After Reading

- **Deepen Your Understanding** is a writing activity that extends appreciation and analysis of the book. This activity focuses on critical-thinking skills and literary analysis.
- **End-of-Book Test** contains 20 multiple-choice items covering the book. These items ask questions that require students to synthesize the information in the book and make inferences in their answers.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Focus on Reading is very flexible. It can be used by the whole class, by small groups, or by individuals. Each study guide divides the novel into 6 manageable units of study.

This literature comprehension program is simple to use. Just photocopy the lessons and distribute them at the appropriate time as students read the novel.

You may want to reproduce and discuss the **Focus Your Knowledge** page before distributing the paperbacks. This page develops and activates prior knowledge to ensure that students have a grounding in the book before beginning reading. After reading this whole-book prereading page, students are ready to dive into the book.

The **Focus Your Reading** prereading activities are the keystone of this program. They prepare students for what they are going to read, providing focus for the complex task of reading. These pages should be distributed before students actually begin reading the corresponding section of the novel. There are no questions to be answered on these pages; these are for reference and support during reading. Students may choose to take notes on these pages as they read. This will also give students a study tool for review before the **End-of-Book Test**.

The **Focus Your Reading** pages also provide an excellent bridge to home. Parents, mentors, tutors, or

other involved adults can review vocabulary words with students, offer their own insights about the historical and cultural background outlined, and become familiar with the ideas students will be reading about. This can help families talk to students in a meaningful way about their reading, and it gives the adults something concrete to ask about to be sure that students are reading and understanding.

The **Build Your Vocabulary** and **Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice** and **Short Answer** activities should be distributed when students begin reading the corresponding section of the novel. These literature guide pages are intended to help students comprehend and retain what they read; they should be available for students to refer to at any time during the reading.

Deepen Your Understanding is an optional extension activity that goes beyond literal questions about the book, asking students for their own ideas and opinions—and the reasons behind them. These postreading activities generally focus on literary analysis.

As reflected in its title, the **End-of-Book Test** is a postreading comprehension test to be completed after the entire novel has been read.

For your convenience, a clear **Answer Key** simplifies the scoring process.

Focus on the Book

Synopsis

Ponyboy Curtis doesn't have it easy. With both parents dead and his strict brother Daryl in charge, he and his other brother Soda do their best to survive on the rough side of town. In a place divided by class, Ponyboy is just another "greaser" who fights the privileged "Socs" of the West side. But the greasers are more than a gang of teenagers; they are as close as brothers and struggle to stay together in a society where appearances and money are valued more than life. For the greasers, innocence is hard to hold onto and growing up fast is expected.

Ponyboy and his friend Johnny are jumped by some Socs. To save Pony from being killed, Johnny kills one of the Socs. The boys go into hiding in an abandoned church. While they are away, some children find the church and become trapped inside when a fire breaks out. Johnny and Ponyboy save the children. Ponyboy is slightly injured; Johnny, mortally so.

A story in which theft and violence is a way of life and education is hard to come by, *The Outsiders* teaches the importance of friendship and tolerance, and how life can change when there is hope.

About the Author

It was 1965 when sixteen-year-old S.E. Hinton began writing her first novel, *The Outsiders*. She was a young adult going through adolescence in an uncertain but hopeful time. Susan Eloise Hinton was advised to use her initials instead of her first name because her publishers thought no one would believe a young woman could write a book like *The Outsiders*. At the time, Hinton followed her publishers' advice and later found that she appreciated the privacy of not having her first name known to everyone.

Historical Background

The Outsiders was written in 1965 during a revolutionary time in the United States when civil rights were being challenged and the country was at war in Vietnam. Many people—black, white, rich, middle-class, and poor—were fighting for equal rights in America. One leader of the Civil Rights movement, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., an African-American pastor, spent his short life speaking out against segregation and spreading his message of nonviolence and tolerance

among all people. Dr. King inspired people to rise up and march in protest against discrimination in schools, on buses, and in communities. He believed that one day people of every color would live freely and justly as expressed in the Declaration of Independence. During the 1963 March on Washington, Dr. King stood on the steps of the Lincoln memorial and delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, one of the most powerful and significant speeches in American history.

America was also at war in Vietnam and teenage boys were dying overseas. Books were being banned from schools, and lifestyles were being threatened by the traditional ideals of society. Many artists came together to creatively demonstrate their anger at the war and their opinions on the draft, censorship, politics, and environmental issues. These artists attracted people from all over the country through song, art, and poetry. Folk singers such as Joan Baez and Bob Dylan and poets such as Allen Ginsberg greatly influenced young people by promoting change and social consciousness. Those who felt isolated and dissatisfied with the politics of the time found a place to express their opinions.

The Outsiders takes place in Tulsa, Oklahoma, an urban town surrounded by rural communities, and where Hinton was raised. Tulsa is the most populated city in Oklahoma next to Oklahoma City, and it felt the effects of the revolution shaking up the country in the 1960s. Tulsa at that time was beginning to address issues such as housing discrimination, job bias, and urban renewal. Movies including *Rebel Without a Cause* with James Dean and *The Wild One* starring Marlon Brando reflected the rebellious attitude of many teens.

Tulsa County marked the dividing line between the Eastern Ozarks and the Western plains with hills, bluffs, and prairies. Farmland and cattle and horse ranches lie just outside the urban limits of Tulsa. Oklahoma has over 69,000 square miles of land area, is home to more American Indians than any other state, and has a history of outlaws, gangs, and earthquakes. It is bordered by six states: Arkansas, Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas, and it has more man-made lakes than any other state in America.

Focus Your Knowledge

- *The Outsiders*, written in the 1960s, deals with several universal social issues, including class conflict, gangs, and domestic violence, that are relevant today. What do you know about such issues?
- *The Outsiders* takes place in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Locate Oklahoma on a map. What do you know about this region of the country? What do you know about Oklahoma?
- Gangs are a fact of life in *The Outsiders*. The story deals with conflicts between two groups, the rich Socs and the generally poor greasers. What do you know about gangs? Are gangs formed based on social class today, or on some other connection? How do gangs differentiate themselves from each other? What activities do gangs today engage in? Do you think gangs today and gangs in the 1960s share common purposes and problems?
- Several teens in the book have difficult home lives. Ponyboy, the main character, is an orphan who fears that he will be removed from the care of his twenty-year-old brother. What do you know about foster care and other social services in your state? Do you think it is a good idea to keep a group of brothers together, even if the oldest is only twenty, or would it be better for the younger siblings to be cared for elsewhere? Johnny, another important character, lives in an abusive environment. What help might be available to someone in such a situation?

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

rumble—to engage in a gang fight

mugged—attacked with intent to rob

lynx—a wildcat with thick, soft fur, a short tail, and tufted ears

bawling—crying or sobbing loudly

reckless—without care for consequences or danger

vacant—empty; unoccupied

nonchalantly—in an unconcerned manner

incredulous—doubtful; disbelieving; skeptical

stocky—solidly built; sturdy or chubby

roguishly—deceitfully; mischievously

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

Paul Newman is an actor who starred in many films in the 1950s and 1960s. He is famous for his classic good looks, sparkling blue eyes, and method acting. Paul Newman also founded Newman's Own, a food company that donates profits to charities.

An **editorial** is an article in a publication expressing the opinion of its editors or publishers.

Will Rogers was best known as a folksy philosopher. He was a movie star, a comedian, a famous broadcaster, and a political writer. He was raised in Oklahoma and had Cherokee heritage on both sides of his family. He was even in the Guinness Book of World Records for throwing three lassos at once: one around a running horse's neck, one around its rider, and the third around the four legs of the horse!

Corvair and **Mustang** were the names of small sports cars with high performance engines. They were popular drag racing cars in the 1960s.

Rodeos are tournaments in which cowboys' herding skills are tested. Calf roping and bull riding are a couple of the competitions that take place in a rodeo.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. Why do you think Ponyboy loves going to the movies? What role do the movies play in your life? What do movies do for Ponyboy?
2. What does Ponyboy mean when he says that he does well in school but “doesn’t use his head”?
3. What are some of the reasons Ponyboy gives for Darry’s strict rules? Why doesn’t Ponyboy think Darry loves him?
4. What is Johnny’s life at home like? What do the greasers give Johnny that he doesn’t experience at home?
5. How does Ponyboy feel when the Socs tease him?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use the word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “They gang up on one or two, or they **rumble** each other with their social clubs.”
rumble: _____
2. “There just isn’t a whole lot you can say while waiting to get **mugged**, so I kept my mouth shut.”
mugged: _____
3. “He had an elfish face, with high cheekbones and a pointed chin, small, sharp animal teeth, and ears like a **lynx**.”
lynx: _____
4. “I was smarting and aching and my chest was sore and I was so nervous my hands were shaking and I wanted to start **bawling**.”
bawling: _____
5. “He’s not as tall as Darry, and he’s a little slimmer, but he has a finely drawn, sensitive face that somehow manages to be **reckless** and thoughtful at the same time.”
reckless: _____
6. “Not unless you’re hurt like Johnny had been that day we found him in the **vacant** lot.”
vacant: _____
7. “‘Okay,’ I said **nonchalantly**, ‘might as well.’”
nonchalantly: _____
8. “She gave him an **incredulous** look.”
incredulous: _____
9. “He was about six feet tall, **stocky** in build, and very proud of his long rusty-colored sideburns.”
stocky: _____
10. “Dally grinned **roguishly**. ‘I’m never nice.’”
roguishly: _____

I. CHAPTERS 1–2

DURING READING

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. Who does Ponyboy think about when he is walking alone and the Socs are following him?
 - a. Darry
 - b. Dallas
 - c. Johnny
2. What age are most of the gang members?
 - a. eight to ten years old
 - b. fourteen to eighteen years old
 - c. twenty-two to twenty-five years old
3. Who does Ponyboy think looks like a movie star?
 - a. Sodapop
 - b. Johnny
 - c. Steve Randle
4. What is Two-Bit Matthews famous for?
 - a. fixing cars
 - b. eating four dozen eggs
 - c. shoplifting
5. Why doesn't Ponyboy live with his mom and dad?
 - a. He doesn't get along with them.
 - b. They died in an auto wreck.
 - c. He chose to live with other relatives.
6. Which member of the greasers was in jail at ten years old?
 - a. Dallas
 - b. Two-Bit Matthews
 - c. Darry
7. Who is Soda's girlfriend?
 - a. Evie
 - b. Sandy
 - c. Sylvia
8. Who was captain of the football team in school?
 - a. Ponyboy
 - b. Dallas
 - c. Darry
9. How much does it cost to go to the movies at the drive-in?
 - a. two dollars
 - b. one dollar
 - c. twenty-five cents
10. Who works at the gas station?
 - a. Ponyboy and Darry
 - b. Two-Bit and Dallas
 - c. Steve and Soda

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. What are some of the things that gang members carry?
2. Why doesn't Darry like movies?
3. What does Ponyboy do when the Socs pull a knife on him?
4. Using the five senses (sight, smell, hearing, taste, and touch), how would you describe a Soc's appearance?
5. Using the five senses, how would you describe a greaser's appearance?
6. When Johnny tells Dally to leave Cherry alone, why doesn't Dally react violently?
7. Why do Cherry and Marcia leave their boyfriends at the drive-in?
8. Why aren't Cherry and Marcia afraid of Ponyboy and Johnny?
9. What does Ponyboy say is the difference between a pack and a gang?
10. What happened to Johnny when he went to play football with the greasers?

Deepen Your Understanding

Social class refers to a group of people who share the same economic level. The Socs and the greasers represent two social classes. What kinds of things separate the East side from the West side? What do you think Cherry means when she tells Ponyboy that “things are rough all over”? Why is this statement important?

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

aloofness—a distant or reserved manner
elite—the best or most skilled members of a group
boxcar—an enclosed railway car used for transporting freight
stammered—said in a halting manner
territory—a sizable geographic area or region

premonition—an advanced warning
contemptuously—scornfully
bleak—cold and harsh; gloomy and dreary
panic—sudden overpowering fear
apprehensive—fearful or uneasy about the future

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

Snooker is a variety of pool played with fifteen red balls and six balls of colors other than red, in which a player must shoot one of the red balls into a pocket before shooting at one of the other balls.

The **FBI** is the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which conducts investigations for the Attorney General and safeguards national security.

A **hermit** is a person who lives apart from people and society.

Bootlegging is the illegal distribution or production of highly taxed goods.

Hank Williams was one of the greatest country singers and songwriters of all time. He was born in Alabama and had to overcome many hardships to pursue his dream of becoming a musician. When Hank was seven years old, his father disappeared, and Hank helped support his family by selling peanuts and newspapers and by shining shoes. He taught himself to play the guitar and formed his own band at the age of fourteen.

The Beatles were an English rock band that rocketed to stardom in the 1960s. The four members were John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr. They were famous for their music, their moplike haircuts, and their attractiveness to adolescent girls.

A **reformatory** is a penal institution for reforming young offenders.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. Why are greasers and Socs so concerned about their reputation? How are they seen by society?

2. Why does Ponyboy dream about the country?

3. Why does Ponyboy think that Dally could never love anyone or anything?

4. Why does Ponyboy feel bad when he talks about his home life to Johnny?

5. What does Ponyboy believe isn't fair about being a greaser?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use the word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “Socs were always behind a wall of **aloofness**, careful not to let their real selves show through.”
aloofness: _____
2. “‘And,’ Two-Bit added grimly, ‘a few other of the socially **elite** checkered-shirt set.’”
elite: _____
3. “The train slowed to a screaming halt. . . . We ran and pulled ourselves into an open **boxcar**.”
boxcar: _____
4. “It sounded dumb, even to me, when I **stammered**, ‘I . . . I went to sleep in the lot . . .’”
stammered: _____
5. “‘This is our **territory**. What are Socs doing this far east?’”
territory: _____
6. “But this church gave me a kind of creepy feeling. What do you call it? **Premonition?**”
premonition: _____
7. “‘Oh, shoot, kid’”—Dally glanced **contemptuously** over his shoulder—‘I was in the bedroom.’”
contemptuously: _____
8. “‘It’s the truth,’ Johnny said with a **bleak** grin.”
bleak: _____
9. “Johnny had a blank, tough look on his face—you’d have had to know him to see the **panic** in his eyes.”
panic: _____
10. “He was pretty well crocked, which made me **apprehensive**.”
apprehensive: _____

II. CHAPTERS 3–4

DURING READING

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. When he is talking to Cherry, what does Ponyboy say separates greasers and Socs?
 - a. money
 - b. location
 - c. feelings
2. According to Cherry, what is the main difference between greasers and Socs?
 - a. money
 - b. location
 - c. feelings
3. Why is it surprising that Ponyboy talks so much with Cherry?
 - a. He already has a girlfriend.
 - b. He is usually quiet.
 - c. He knows Darry will be angry if he finds out.
4. Who does Ponyboy usually talk to?
 - a. Dally
 - b. Soda
 - c. Darry
5. Why is Johnny so jumpy when he sees the blue Mustang?
 - a. He thinks it is his father coming to get him.
 - b. He is naturally very jumpy.
 - c. That is the car driven by the Socs who beat him up.
6. Who was Mickey Mouse?
 - a. Soda's horse
 - b. Soda's puppy
 - c. Soda's car
7. In Ponyboy's fantasy, where would there be "plain, ordinary people"?
 - a. the city
 - b. the country
 - c. the suburbs
8. According to Bob, what is a greaser?
 - a. white trash with long hair
 - b. white trash without a car
 - c. white trash in need of a bath
9. What does Johnny do to protect Ponyboy?
 - a. He runs for the police.
 - b. He threatens Bob.
 - c. He kills Bob.
10. Where do Ponyboy and Johnny hide out?
 - a. in a school
 - b. in a church
 - c. in a railroad car

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. Why does Ponyboy worry about what Darry might say when he gets home?
2. Why would a Soc like Cherry be attracted to a greaser like Dally?
3. Why does Two-Bit tear up Marcia's phone number?
4. When he was ten, why had Pony saved his money? What does this say about Ponyboy?
5. Why is it important to Ponyboy that Cherry understand that he would not use the broken bottle?
6. Why does Johnny threaten to kill himself?
7. Why does Ponyboy run away from home? Why does Johnny go with him?
8. What does Ponyboy do in response to Bob's insult?
9. What does Dally tell Pony and Johnny to do in Windrixville?
10. What does Dally give to Ponyboy and Johnny to take with them?

Deepen Your Understanding

Think about what Ponyboy's life was like before and after his parents died. How has his life changed since they died? How has the loss affected him and his brothers? Why are his memories of his parents important to him? Explain your ideas in a few paragraphs.

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

siege—the surrounding of a town or fortress by an army in order to capture it
disguised—changed in appearance to prevent recognition
reluctantly—unwillingly
sullenly—gloomily; in a bad-tempered manner
gallant—spirited and courageous

detached—indifferent; not emotionally involved
indignant—angry because of injustice or unworthiness
horizon—the line along which the earth and sky appear to meet
hauled—pulled, dragged, or carried
conviction—a strong opinion or belief

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

The **electric chair** was invented in 1880 to electrocute criminals sentenced to death. The device is still in use today in Alabama, Oklahoma, and Virginia.

Peroxide is a common disinfecting agent that is also a harsh hair bleach.

Gone with the Wind is a well-known novel written by Margaret Mitchell. The story chronicles the life of Scarlett O'Hara in Georgia during and after the Civil War. The book was made into an Oscar-winning movie starring Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. What does Darry tell Ponyboy after the fire? How does it make Ponyboy feel?
2. How does Ponyboy feel about hunting? Why is he afraid to tell Dally he feels this way?
3. How does Johnny feel when he learns that his parents aren't out looking for him?
4. What does Dally mean when he is worried that Ponyboy and Johnny will "get hardened in jail"?
5. Why is Johnny happy to be in the burning church?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use the word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “On the fifth day I had read up to Sherman’s **siege** of Atlanta in *Gone with the Wind*, owed Johnny a hundred and fifty bucks from poker games, smoked two packs of Camels, and as Johnny had predicted, got sick.”
siege: _____
2. “He didn’t look like Johnny. . . . ‘I guess,’ he said weakly, ‘I guess we’re **disguised**.’”
disguised: _____
3. “I put the book down **reluctantly**. I wanted to start it right then.”
reluctantly: _____
4. “I leaned back next to him **sullenly**.”
sullenly: _____
5. “‘I bet they were cool ol’ guys,’ he said, his eyes glowing, after I had read the part about them riding into sure death because they were **gallant**.’”
gallant: _____
6. “I should be scared, I thought with an odd **detached** feeling, but I’m not.”
detached: _____
7. “Johnny was so **indignant** he nearly squeaked.”
indignant: _____
8. “We couldn’t watch the sunset, since the back faced east, but I loved to look at the colors of the fields and the soft shadings of the **horizon**.”
horizon: _____
9. “‘I get **hauled** in for everything that happens in our turf.’”
hauled: _____
10. “‘I was scared,’ Johnny said with **conviction**.”
conviction: _____

III. CHAPTERS 5–6

DURING READING

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. What special item does Johnny buy for Ponyboy when he buys supplies?
 - a. his favorite food—baloney
 - b. a book he had been wanting to read
 - c. shampoo
2. What is Ponyboy's "pride"?
 - a. his hair
 - b. Dally's jacket
 - c. his madras shirt
3. When can Ponyboy finally relax at the church?
 - a. after he reads his book
 - b. after Johnny cuts his hair
 - c. after he cries
4. What makes Johnny think of Dally as "gallant"?
 - a. the way he coolly accepted blame for something another gang member did
 - b. the way he helped the boys hide out
 - c. his success with girls
5. What does Ponyboy find scary about Dally?
 - a. He is so real.
 - b. He is so violent.
 - c. He is not bright.
6. Who writes Ponyboy a letter while the boys are hiding out?
 - a. Darry
 - b. Cherry
 - c. Soda
7. What does the letter urge Ponyboy to do?
 - a. go to Texas until things quiet down
 - b. go to the police
 - c. come home after a few days of hiding out
8. Who is the "spy" for the greasers?
 - a. Two-Bit
 - b. Cherry
 - c. Tim Shepard
9. Why does Dally hit Ponyboy on the back?
 - a. to keep him from going back into the burning building
 - b. to smother the fire on his back
 - c. to teach him who is boss
10. What does Ponyboy realize is Darry's "silent fear"?
 - a. that Ponyboy will become a criminal
 - b. that Ponyboy will drop out of school
 - c. that he will lose someone else he loves

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. What kinds of things does Ponyboy imagine happened when he wakes up alone?
2. What impresses Johnny the most in *Gone with the Wind*?
3. Who wants to go to the police? Why?
4. What does Dally deliver to Ponyboy when he comes to see him at the hide-out?
5. What type of a gang is Tim Shepherd in? Whose side is he on?
6. Why does Cherry decide to tell people that she will testify for Ponyboy and Johnny?
7. When does Dally start carrying a gun?
8. What will happen if the greasers win the next fight against the Socs?
9. Why do you think Johnny is so determined to save the children in the church?
10. What happens to Johnny in the fire?

Deepen Your Understanding

Ponyboy and Johnny are watching the sunrise when Johnny quotes from the poem “Nothing Gold Can Stay” that is near the middle of Chapter 5. What do you think the “gold” represents? What do you think the poem means? Explain your ideas in a few paragraphs.

IV. CHAPTERS 7–8

BEFORE READING

*Focus Your Reading**Vocabulary Words to Know*

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

hesitation—a pause or doubt before acting, speaking, or deciding

genuine—real; sincere

delinquents—people who fail to do what is required by law or obligation

self-defense—the right to use whatever means reasonably necessary to protect oneself against violence or threatened violence

recognized—known to be something perceived or experienced before

hitch—to catch

charity—help or relief given to the poor

gasped—inhaled sharply with emotion or shock

absent-mindedly—preoccupied; forgetful

aghast—stricken with horror; appalled

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

Public appeal is a term reporters use to describe what is appealing or interesting to the community or people in town.

The **press** refers to the newspapers and television stations that report news, and the people who do that work.

When Steve says that Sandy had to move because “it was either that or get married,” he is suggesting that Sandy is pregnant. At the time of the story, an unmarried pregnant girl would have had few acceptable options.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. Why do you think most parents aren't aware of the segregation between the Socs and the greasers?
2. Why is Darry so worried when Ponyboy tells him he had a dream the night before?
3. How does Soda feel when his girlfriend, Sandy, moves away?
4. Why does Ponyboy hate the Socs in the Mustang?
5. What does Ponyboy realize when he listens to Randy and Cherry talk about Bob?

IV. CHAPTERS 7–8

DURING READING

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use the word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “Two-Bit handed it over to Dally without a moment’s **hesitation**.”
hesitation: _____
2. “Darry spun around to face me, **genuine** fear on his face.”
genuine: _____
3. “On the front page of the second section was the headline: JUVENILE **DELINQUENTS** TURN HEROES.”
delinquents: _____
4. “His buddy Randy Adderson, who had helped jump us, also said it was their fault and that we’d only fought back in **self-defense**.”
self-defense: _____
5. “I **recognized** Randy Adderson, Marcia’s boyfriend, and the tall guy that had almost drowned me.”
recognized: _____
6. “We decided to catch a bus home. I just didn’t feel much like walking or trying to **hitch** a ride.”
hitch: _____
7. “I wasn’t trying to give you **charity**, Ponyboy. I only wanted to help.”
charity: _____
8. “He was struggling to sit up, but he suddenly **gasped**, went whiter than the pillowcase, and passed out cold.”
gasped: _____
9. “I **absent-mindedly** watched Darry as he searched the icebox for chocolate cake.”
absent-mindedly: _____
10. “‘Work?’ Two-Bit was **aghast**.”
aghast: _____

IV. CHAPTERS 7–8

DURING READING

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer.

1. Of what kind of animal does Soda remind Ponyboy?
 - a. a panther
 - b. a colt
 - c. a giraffe
2. How does Ponyboy get into his house after leaving the hospital?
 - a. Soda drags him in.
 - b. Darry carries him in.
 - c. He walks in.
3. What does Two-Bit find funny about the headline “Juvenile Delinquents Turn Heroes”?
 - a. that Ponyboy and Johnny are heroes
 - b. that the reporter uses the word *turn*
 - c. that Ponyboy and Johnny are juvenile delinquents
4. Darry dislikes being referred to as “all brawn and no brain” because
 - a. he had wanted to go to college.
 - b. he knows he isn’t very smart.
 - c. he works hard at body-building.
5. What news does Randy Adderson give Ponyboy in private?
 - a. He’s going to kill Johnny for killing Bob.
 - b. He’s going to move away.
 - c. He’s going to skip the rumble.
6. After talking to Randy, Ponyboy thinks, “Things were rough all over, but it was better that way.” Why is it better?
 - a. The other guy gets hurt, too.
 - b. The other guy doesn’t have an unfair advantage.
 - c. The other guy is human.
7. Why does the doctor let Ponyboy and Two-Bit visit Johnny even though it is against the rules?
 - a. Johnny is dying anyway.
 - b. Johnny has been bothering the staff to let him have visitors.
 - c. Johnny’s parents have not come.
8. Besides hair grease, what does Johnny ask for in the hospital?
 - a. cigarettes
 - b. candy
 - c. *Gone with the Wind*
9. How can Two-Bit and Ponyboy tell that Dally is okay?
 - a. He is his usual mean self.
 - b. He is swearing at the doctors.
 - c. He is flirting with the nurses.
10. What is Two-Bit’s pride and joy?
 - a. a jet-handled switchblade
 - b. a gold watch
 - c. his black leather jacket

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. How does Ponyboy feel when the doctor explains Johnny's condition?
2. Johnny talked about suicide before he was in the hospital, but now that he is really dying, he wishes he could live longer. Why has his outlook on life changed since he was hurt in the fire?
3. Why doesn't Johnny want to see his mother? What does Two-Bit do to make sure that she doesn't see Johnny?
4. What makes the Socs decide to fight the greasers without weapons?
5. When Ponyboy reads the newspaper, what is he afraid will happen to him and Soda?
6. Why is the door to Ponyboy's house kept unlocked?
7. What is the rule about cooking in Ponyboy's house?
8. Why does Randy decide not to go to the rumble?
9. What do Ponyboy and Randy learn about each other from their conversation?
10. Why won't Cherry go to see Johnny in the hospital?

Deepen Your Understanding

Ponyboy says that Johnny looks “younger when he’s asleep.” How have Johnny’s experiences made him look older? What does Johnny mean when he says that during his sixteen years on the streets he has seen “all the wrong sights, not the sights you want to see”?

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

amplifier—a device used to make something louder

stifled—smothered; held in; muffled

reputation—the general estimation of a person or thing held by the public

survey—a questionnaire; a list of questions asked of different people

underprivileged—socially or economically disadvantaged

menace—a threat

leery—distrustful; wary

restless—anxious; antsy; fidgety

taut—tight

delirious—a temporary mental disturbance resulting from high fever, intoxication, or shock and marked by confusion, tremors, hallucinations, and incoherent speech

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

The **Arkansas River** rises in central Colorado and flows through south Kansas, northeast Oklahoma, and Arkansas into the Mississippi River.

“**Fuzz**” is a slang term meaning “police.”

An **alley cat** is a homeless cat that searches for food in alleys and streets. It is known for being scrappy and resourceful.

A **concussion** is a jarring injury to the brain, the result of a hard blow to the head.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. How does Ponyboy feel about fighting?
2. How does Dally feel about helping people? Why does he feel this way?
3. How does Ponyboy feel about drinking?
4. Why does Ponyboy pretend to be proud of having killed the Soc?
5. How did Soda and Two-Bit end up in jail once?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use the word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “‘You hear me?’ ‘You sure don’t need an **amplifier**,’ Soda said, and stuck out his tongue at the back of Darry’s head. I **stifled** a giggle.”
amplifier: _____
stifled: _____
2. “(What kind of world is it where all I have to be proud of is a **reputation** for being a hood, and greasy hair?)”
reputation: _____
3. “‘Hey, Two-Bit,’ I said, deciding to complete my **survey**, ‘how come you like to fight?’”
survey: _____
4. “‘O victim of environment, **underprivileged**, rotten, no-count hood!’”
underprivileged: _____
5. “‘I beat up people. I rob gas stations. I am a **menace** to society.’”
menace: _____
6. “‘We mostly stuck with our own outfits, so I was a little **leery** of going over to him, but I shrugged.’”
leery: _____
7. “‘Tim had the tense, hungry look of an alley cat . . . and he was constantly **restless**.’”
restless: _____
8. “‘He stood there, tall, broad-shouldered, his muscles **taut** under his T-shirt. . . .’”
taut: _____
9. “‘But I had a sick feeling that maybe I hadn’t called for him while I was **delirious**, maybe I had only wanted Sodapop to be with me.’”
delirious: _____

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. In what way does Darry look different from the other greasers?
 - a. He is muscular.
 - b. He wears his hair short.
 - c. He wears T-shirts and jeans.
2. Why does Soda like to fight?
 - a. the action
 - b. the blood
 - c. the girls
3. Why does Darry like to fight?
 - a. because it takes strength
 - b. because it takes brains
 - c. because it takes courage
4. Why has Darry taught everyone to do acrobatics?
 - a. to keep them out of trouble
 - b. because it might come in handy in a fight
 - c. because it was something fun they could do for free
5. What does Ponyboy decide is the only good reason to fight?
 - a. pride
 - b. hatred
 - c. self-defense
6. Why does Ponyboy feel that his group shouldn't be with Tim Shepard's gang and the Brumly boys?
 - a. The others are real hoods.
 - b. The others are all convicts.
 - c. The others cannot be trusted.
7. How are Dally and Pony able to make good time driving to see Johnny in the hospital?
 - a. Dally is an expert driver.
 - b. They hit all the traffic lights right.
 - c. They get a police escort.
8. What has Johnny always wanted from Dally?
 - a. for Dally to be proud of him
 - b. for Dally to give up fighting
 - c. protection from Socs
9. Why is Johnny's death particularly hard on Dally?
 - a. He has no one else to love.
 - b. Johnny was really his brother.
 - c. Johnny was the youngest of the gang.
10. What does Johnny leave for Ponyboy when he dies?
 - a. his hair oil
 - b. his leather jacket
 - c. his copy of *Gone with the Wind*

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. What happened once when Ponyboy and Curly Shepherd were playing chicken?
2. What does Darry tell Soda and Ponyboy to do if the police show up at the rumble?
3. What do greasers wear to rumbles? Why do they dress this way?
4. How is Tim Shepherd's gang different from the greasers?
5. What makes people think that greasers are more dangerous than Socs?
6. How did Dally get out of the hospital? Why is it important to him to fight?
7. How does Darry feel when Paul Holden sees him fighting with the greasers?
8. What are Johnny's last words to Ponyboy? What does he mean by these words?
9. Why do the police chase after Dally? Why does Dally take out his gun in front of them?
10. What actions of Dally's does Ponyboy remember as he sees Dally go down?

Deepen Your Understanding

Ponyboy knows that in his neighborhood young hoods grow up to be old hoods, but he doesn't think this will happen to him and Darry. What does he admire about his brother Darry? How will this keep Ponyboy from becoming an old hood himself? How are greasers different from hoods? Explain your ideas in a few paragraphs.

Focus Your Reading

Vocabulary Words to Know

Study the following words and definitions. You will meet these words in your reading. Be sure to jot down in your word journal any other unknown words from the reading.

pity—a feeling of sorrow for another's misfortune

vacuum—a space of emptiness

guardian—one who is legally responsible for the person or property of another

acquitted—cleared of a charge

idolized—regarded with excessive admiration or devotion

flinching—pulling back as if in pain

middleman—a go-between

veered—shifted suddenly from one course of direction to another

circumstances—conditions that must be considered in determining a course of action

bulletin—a brief report on a matter of public interest

Things to Know

Here is some background information about this section of the book.

The Carpetbaggers was a popular book in the 1960s written by Harold Robbins about power, money, and Hollywood dreams.

Perry Mason was a famous detective series created by Erle Stanley Gardner. It first began as a radio show before the courtroom drama was aired on television in 1957. In the shows, Perry Mason, a defense attorney, got his clients off by exposing the real culprit on the witness stand.

Focus Your Reading

Questions to Think About

The following questions will help you understand the meaning of what you read. You do not have to write out the answers to these questions. Instead, look at them before you begin reading, and think about them while you are reading.

1. Why does Randy come to visit Ponyboy before the hearing?
2. Why does Ponyboy feel proud of Darry and Soda at the trial?
3. What is significant about Ponyboy threatening the Socs with a broken bottle?
4. What is Soda's role in the family?
5. Why does Ponyboy suddenly become clumsy and forgetful?

Build Your Vocabulary

Read the sentences below. On the line, write your definition of the word in bold type. Then, on another sheet of paper, use the word in a new sentence of your own.

1. “I’d rather have anybody’s hate than their **pity**.”
pity: _____
2. “You’re living in a **vacuum**, Pony, and you’re going to have to cut it out.”
vacuum: _____
3. “If the judge decides Darry isn’t a good **guardian** or something, I’m liable to get stuck in a home somewhere.”
guardian: _____
4. “Then he said I was **acquitted** and the whole case was closed.”
acquitted: _____
5. “Did he have a kid brother who **idolized** him? Maybe a big brother who kept bugging him not to be so wild?”
idolized: _____
6. “Darry said, ‘Yes, sir,’ looking straight at the judge, not **flinching**; but Soda looked at me like he was sentencing me to the electric chair. . . .”
flinching: _____
7. “Sodapop would always be the **middleman**, but that didn’t mean he had to keep getting pulled apart.”
middleman: _____
8. “He **veered** off to the right, but I caught him in a flying tackle before he’d gone more than a couple of steps.”
veered: _____
9. “‘Taking into consideration the **circumstances**’—brother, was that ever a way to tell me he knew I was goofing up because I’d been in a lot of trouble.”
circumstances: _____
10. “‘You can’t really miss my name on any kind of **bulletin**.’”
bulletin: _____

VI. CHAPTERS 11–12

DURING READING

Check Your Understanding

Multiple Choice

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. What sign of hope is there for Randy?
 - a. He feels “lousy” about letting his father down.
 - b. He can afford to pay a fine.
 - c. His parents will be at the hearing.
2. What nickname does Darry finally call Pony, a name usually reserved for Soda?
 - a. Mickey Mouse
 - b. honey
 - c. little buddy
3. What does the judge ask Ponyboy at the hearing?
 - a. who killed Bob Sheldon
 - b. about Ponyboy’s daily life
 - c. who Ponyboy would like to live with
4. What is the outcome of the hearing?
 - a. Ponyboy is put on probation.
 - b. Ponyboy is acquitted.
 - c. Ponyboy is required to do community service.
5. How can Ponyboy improve his English grade?
 - a. by writing a poem about a sunset
 - b. by retaking a test
 - c. by writing a composition
6. What does Ponyboy feel when some Socs challenge him at the grocery store?
 - a. fear
 - b. anger
 - c. nothing
7. How does Ponyboy know something is bothering Soda?
 - a. Soda starts smoking.
 - b. Soda cries.
 - c. Soda picks a fight with him.
8. Why can’t Soda choose sides between his brothers?
 - a. He loves them both.
 - b. He is afraid to.
 - c. He can see both sides.
9. Why does Two-Bit complain about losing his switchblade when the police take it from Dally’s body?
 - a. to take his mind off the pain of the loss
 - b. to trick the police into thinking he had stabbed someone
 - c. to distract the police
10. Why does Ponyboy want to be tough?
 - a. so that the girls will like him
 - b. so that the Socs will fear him
 - c. so that he won’t get hurt

Check Your Understanding

Short Answer

Write a short answer for each question.

1. What does Ponyboy mean when he says that he would rather have “everybody’s hate than their pity”?
2. What does Ponyboy think about when he sees a photo of Robert Sheldon?
3. Why does Ponyboy say he was the one who killed Bob?
4. Why is Ponyboy afraid to go to his court hearing?
5. How do people at school act toward Ponyboy after the hearing?
6. Ponyboy threatens some Socs with a broken bottle, and Two-Bit gets worried. What shows Two-Bit that Ponyboy hasn’t really changed?
7. What does Darry mean when he tells Ponyboy not to “quit”?
8. Why is Johnny glad to have given up his life for the kids in the burning church?
9. What does Soda say that makes Ponyboy look at his relationship with Darry differently?
10. What is Ponyboy’s mission?

Deepen Your Understanding

Johnny leaves Ponyboy a note in his copy of *Gone with the Wind*. He tells Pony to “stay gold.” Do you think Ponyboy will take his advice? Why or why not? Write another chapter that tells what happens to Ponyboy after he turns in his English assignment.

End-of-Book Test

Circle the letter of the best answer to each question.

1. Who does Ponyboy think about when he daydreams?
 - a. his parents
 - b. his aunt
 - c. his grandfather
2. Why does Dally become so careless and suicidal after Johnny dies?
 - a. because Johnny was the only person he loved
 - b. because he feels like a mean person
 - c. because he didn't get to say good-bye to Johnny
3. Why does Two-Bit carry a switchblade in his pocket?
 - a. to stab enemies
 - b. to whittle wood
 - c. for show
4. How does the headline about the fire read on the front page of the paper?
 - a. Juvenile Delinquents Caught in Fire
 - b. Juvenile Delinquents Turn Heroes
 - c. Juvenile Delinquents Save Children
5. Who regrets not getting an education?
 - a. Two-Bit
 - b. Soda
 - c. Darry
6. What keeps Darry from being a Soc?
 - a. money
 - b. his brothers
 - c. his hairstyle
7. Why do Darry and Paul Holden look at each other with hatred?
 - a. because they used to fight back in school
 - b. because Paul beat Darry at a football game back in school
 - c. because they are from different classes
8. Who has a scar from temple to chin?
 - a. Tim Shepherd
 - b. Buck Merril
 - c. Curly Shepherd
9. What possessions do Ponyboy and Johnny lose in the fire?
 - a. Dally's jacket and the copy of *Gone with the Wind*
 - b. pictures of Ponyboy's parents and the copy of *Gone with the Wind*
 - c. Dally's gun and the copy of *Gone with the Wind*
10. What is Ponyboy prepared to answer but is never asked by the judge?
 - a. if Bob tried to kill Johnny
 - b. if Ponyboy killed Bob
 - c. why Johnny killed Bob

(continued)

End-of-Book Test (continued)

11. What is Soda's pet nickname?
 - a. Pepsi-Cola
 - b. Root Beer
 - c. Mountain Dew
12. Who dies a hero?
 - a. Dally
 - b. Johnny
 - c. Bob
13. When they get to the church, what does Ponyboy think he and Johnny are going to have to do for the rest of their lives?
 - a. steal food from nearby farmers
 - b. hide
 - c. grow food behind the church
14. What prevents Ponyboy from getting burned in the church?
 - a. Johnny's boots
 - b. Johnny's jacket
 - c. Dally's jacket
15. What kind of supplies does Johnny bring back from the store?
 - a. baloney and peroxide
 - b. comic books and wigs
 - c. survival books and candy
16. What reason does Johnny give Ponyboy for cutting their hair?
 - a. They were seen on the train.
 - b. They were seen running from the cops.
 - c. Their pictures have been in the papers.
17. What does Ponyboy tell Cherry about that he's never told anyone before?
 - a. his parents
 - b. Johnny's family life
 - c. Soda's horse
18. What clue does Ponyboy see that tells him it was Bob who beat up Johnny?
 - a. a cigarette burn on his finger
 - b. his rings
 - c. a tattoo
19. What quality is not good for a greaser to have?
 - a. sensitivity
 - b. caution
 - c. anger
20. What are the rules of being a greaser?
 - a. don't get caught and stick together
 - b. steal from the Socs and stick together
 - c. fight in rumbles and stick together

Answer Key

I. CHAPTERS 1–2

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. c | 6. a |
| 2. b | 7. b |
| 3. a | 8. c |
| 4. c | 9. c |
| 5. b | 10. c |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

- Knives, switchblades, and handkerchiefs are some of the things they carry.
- Darry doesn't like movies because he feels his life is hard enough and doesn't need to examine someone else's life.
- Ponyboy screams and bites the Soc when he put his hand over Ponyboy's mouth.
- Answers will vary. The following is an example.
Socs:
Sight: They wear madras shirts and jeans; they usually walk in groups.
Smell: They smell like English Leather shaving lotion or tobacco.
Hearing: Socs like to curse and wreck houses and have parties.
Taste: They have tobacco on their breath.
Touch: They often use their fists for fighting the greasers.
- Answers will vary. The following is an example.
Greasers:
Sight: Their hair is long and oiled; they wear blue jeans, T-shirts with the shirttails out, leather jackets with tennis shoes or boots; they usually walk in groups.
Smell: They smell like tobacco.
Hearing: Greasers like to shout and stick up for each other.
Taste: Greasers have tobacco on their breath.

Touch: Greasers use their fists for fighting.

- Johnny is the gang's pet and Dally's pet, too. Dally can't hit him because he knows what a tough life Johnny has at home.
- The boys bought booze and wanted to get drunk while watching the movie.
- Marcia and Cherry say that Ponyboy and Johnny don't look the "type" to be mean. They think it is sweet that they told Dallas to leave the girls alone and that Ponyboy and Johnny seem like nice, smart kids.
- A gang sticks up for each other and sticks together like brothers. A pack is a group of people that argue, don't trust each other, and don't stick up for each other.
- Four Socs in a Mustang approached Johnny, beat him up, and gave him a real scare. One of them had rings on his hand, which cut Johnny up badly, and all of the Socs threatened Johnny, which scared him.

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

II. CHAPTERS 3–4

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. a | 6. a |
| 2. c | 7. b |
| 3. b | 8. a |
| 4. b | 9. c |
| 5. c | 10. b |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

- He knows that Darry will be upset and waiting for him to come home. Darry threatens to put Pony in a boy's home if he doesn't behave.

2. Cherry is attracted to Dally because he is a leader, proud and defiant, and brave and dangerous. He's different from the Socs or boys she is used to being around.
3. Two-Bit tears up her number because he doesn't think she could ever like him since he's a greaser. He thinks she gave him a phony number anyway.
4. Ponyboy saved his money in the hopes of buying Soda another horse to replace the one that was sold. This shows how much he cares for Soda, and what a sensitive person he is in general.
5. Ponyboy does not want to be seen as a hood, and he wants to break down the stereotype of greasers as hoods.
6. Johnny is tired of the rivalry between the Socs and the greasers and the Socs getting everything they want and the greasers getting nowhere.
7. Pony runs away because Darry slapped him. Johnny goes with Ponyboy because he knows he's not wanted at home where his parents neglect and abuse him.
8. Ponyboy throws back the insult and spits at the Soc.
9. Dally tells them to hide in the church.
10. Dally gives them money and a loaded gun.

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

III. CHAPTERS 5–6

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. b | 6. c |
| 2. a | 7. b |
| 3. c | 8. b |
| 4. a | 9. b |
| 5. a | 10. c |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

1. Ponyboy imagines that he wakes up and is home with Darry and Soda. He imagines them having

breakfast and then going out to play football with Johnny and Two-Bit. He goes on to imagine that Johnny is caught by the police and that Dally is killed in a car wreck.

2. Johnny is most impressed by the Southern gentlemen's manners and charm.
3. Johnny thinks he and Ponyboy should turn themselves in to the police since he doesn't have a police record and has witnesses to back his claim of self-defense.
4. Dally gives Pony a letter from Sodapop.
5. Tim Shepherd is in a gang of hoods. He fights Socs, too, so he is on the same side as the greasers.
6. Cherry likes Ponyboy and Johnny and wants to help them because she feels like it is her fault. She watched a sunset with Pony, and he was kind and sincere to her.
7. Dally starts carrying a gun after Johnny is killed because the Socs are mad at the greasers for killing their friend, Bob.
8. The Socs will stay out of their territory for good.
9. Ponyboy and Johnny think they started the fire. It makes Johnny feel good to enter into danger for a positive reason—to save children—rather than a negative one such as a gang fight.
10. A piece of timber falls on Johnny's back, and he is badly burned.

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

IV. CHAPTERS 7–8

Build Your Vocabulary

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. b | 6. c |
| 2. b | 7. a |
| 3. b | 8. c |
| 4. a | 9. a |
| 5. c | 10. a |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

1. Pony is devastated and begins to tremble and wants to cry.
2. After Johnny is burned, he realizes that he is young and that there is so much that he hasn't seen or experienced in the world, and he wants to live.
3. Johnny doesn't want to see his mother because he thinks she will blame him for being in the hospital and won't try to understand. Two-Bit tells Johnny's mother that Johnny hates her.
4. Randy was so upset after his best friend, Bob, was killed, that he and the Socs decided to fight without weapons—to play by the greasers' rules. They are tired of fighting because of all that has happened. The greasers prefer to fight without weapons because it is fair.
5. Ponyboy reads the paper and is afraid he and Soda will end up in a boys' home.
6. The door is kept unlocked at Ponyboy's house in case one of the greasers gets in a fight with their parents or needs to run away. A friend can always depend on Ponyboy's house for a place to sleep.
7. The first one awake in the morning makes breakfast and the next person up does the dishes.
8. Randy decides not to go to the rumble because he is too upset after Bob was killed. He has lost his taste for fighting.
9. They learn that they are very similar, despite outward differences.
10. Cherry won't go see Johnny in the hospital because Johnny killed Bob.

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

V. CHAPTERS 9–10**Build Your Vocabulary**

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. b | 6. a |
| 2. a | 7. c |
| 3. a | 8. a |
| 4. b | 9. a |
| 5. c | 10. c |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

1. Ponyboy and Curly burned each other with cigarettes when they were playing chicken. Tim caught them and made them stop because it was dumb.
2. Darry tells Soda and Ponyboy to run if the police show up during the rumble.
3. Greasers like to wear jeans and tight T-shirts at rumbles to show off their muscles. They don't like to wear jackets because they get in the way of swinging and fighting.
4. Tim Shepherd's gang is different from the greasers because they use weapons like knives, bottles, chains, and guns. Greasers carry knives to look tough and intimidate other gangs, but they don't like to use them.
5. Society sees the greasers as dangerous because of the way they dress and the way they wear their hair. Society sees the Socs as more respectable because of their clean-shaven appearance.
6. Dally got out of the hospital by threatening a nurse with a switchblade. It is important for him to fight in the rumble because he loves Johnny and wants to do it for him.
7. Darry feels ashamed and jealous when he sees Paul Holden because they used to be friends on the football team.
8. Johnny's last words to Pony are "stay gold." His wish for Ponyboy is to stay hopeful, young at heart, and able to keep believing in the good in the world.
9. Dally robs a grocery store because he feels desperate and wants to get caught and have a reason to die. Now that Johnny is dead, Dally has lost his hope in the world. He pulls out the gun knowing he will be killed.
10. Ponyboy remembers Dally helping Johnny through a window and giving him his gun for protection when Johnny and Pony were in trouble.

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

VI. CHAPTERS 11–12**Build Your Vocabulary**

Wording and definitions may vary. Students may remember the definitions given in the Vocabulary Words to Know section of Focus Your Reading, or they may refine the definitions based on the context and the reading overall. Students' new sentences will vary.

Check Your Understanding: Multiple Choice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. a | 6. c |
| 2. c | 7. a |
| 3. b | 8. c |
| 4. b | 9. a |
| 5. c | 10. c |

Check Your Understanding: Short Answer

- Ponyboy means that he doesn't want people to feel sorry for him. He is proud of who he is and doesn't want people to look down on him because of his tough appearance.
- Ponyboy realizes that Bob was just another kid, a handsome, rich kid, but a kid nonetheless, who probably wanted the same things out of life that Pony wants. Pony wonders about Bob's family, particularly whether he had brothers.
- Ponyboy is in emotional shock and tries to lessen the blow of his loss by taking the blame. He is trying to make Johnny's death not true.
- Ponyboy is afraid that the judge will separate him and his brothers.
- People behave differently from normal. People who know Pony won't talk to him; strangers want to know all about it. A teacher who has had no trouble with Pony seems to be afraid of him.

- Ponyboy picks up the broken bits of glass because he doesn't want anyone to get a flat tire. This shows that he still cares about people, although he now has a hard edge.
- Darry doesn't want Pony to give up on life even though he has lost a close friend. Darry knows that Pony is smart and wants him to keep doing well in school so he can get into college. Darry knows it would be a waste if Pony gave up at school because he would probably get into trouble and become just another hood.
- He realizes that life is worth living and that the children's lives will turn out better than his has. He would like to live, but he is glad to have given them a chance to live.
- He shows both sides: Darry has given up a lot for the younger boys but does not understand Pony, and Pony sees mostly the strict side of Darry rather than the caring part.
- Ponyboy's mission is to tell the greasers' story—this book.

Deepen Your Understanding

Answers will vary.

END-OF-BOOK TEST

- | | |
|-------|-------|
| 1. a | 11. a |
| 2. a | 12. b |
| 3. c | 13. b |
| 4. b | 14. c |
| 5. c | 15. a |
| 6. b | 16. c |
| 7. c | 17. c |
| 8. a | 18. b |
| 9. c | 19. a |
| 10. b | 20. a |